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# LOUISIANA

JOB SERVICE

# LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Dudley J. Patin, Jr., Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 94094

**NOVEMBER 1984**

RELEASE DATE:
**DECEMBER 26, 1984**

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

| (in thousands) | PRELIMINARY NOVEMBER 1984 | | | | REVISED OCTOBER 1984 | | | | REVISED NOVEMBER 1983 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Labor Force | Empl. | Unemp. | Rate | Labor Force | Empl. | Unemp. | Rate | Labor Force | Empl. | Unemp. | Rate |
| LOUISIANA | 1,964.7 | 1,773.4 | 191.3 | 9.7 | 1,992.8 | 1,794.0 | 198.8 | 10.0 | 1,901.8 | 1,698.4 | 203.4 | 10.7 |
| LABOR MARKET AREAS: | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Alexandria 1/ | 79.0 | 70.9 | 8.1 | 10.3 | 80.0 | 71.9 | 8.1 | 10.1 | 77.1 | 69.6 | 7.5 | 9.7 |
| Baton Rouge 2/ | 252.9 | 231.0 | 21.9 | 8.7 | 254.4 | 231.4 | 23.0 | 9.0 | 241.8 | 220.4 | 21.4 | 8.9 |
| Lafayette 3/ | 98.2 | 92.3 | 5.9 | 6.0 | 99.1 | 92.6 | 6.5 | 6.6 | 94.9 | 87.4 | 7.5 | 7.9 |
| Lake Charles 4/ | 74.1 | 64.4 | 9.7 | 13.1 | 74.9 | 64.8 | 10.1 | 13.5 | 78.0 | 66.6 | 11.4 | 14.6 |
| Monroe 5/ | 60.0 | 54.3 | 5.7 | 9.5 | 60.1 | 54.2 | 5.9 | 9.8 | 58.4 | 52.4 | 6.0 | 10.3 |
| New Orleans 6/ | 539.9 | 489.4 | 50.5 | 9.4 | 544.6 | 491.4 | 53.2 | 9.8 | 530.1 | 479.3 | 50.8 | 9.6 |
| Shreveport 7/ | 172.4 | 159.2 | 13.2 | 7.6 | 174.4 | 160.7 | 13.7 | 7.9 | 170.0 | 152.7 | 17.3 | 10.2 |

## EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana, estimated at 1,582,100 for November, increased by 2,500 workers from October's level and by 2,000 from the November a year ago figure. Seasonal increases in trade and local education were largely responsible for the increased level of nonmanufacturing employment in November. Manufacturing employment was up as a result of higher employment in the nondurable goods segment.

1/ Includes Avoyelles, Grant, & Rapides parishes. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Lafayette Parish only. 4/ Calcasieu Parish only. 5/ Ouachita Parish only. 6/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, and St. Tammany parishes. 7/ Includes Bossier, Caddo, and Webster parishes.

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Monthly employment in the durable goods segment of manufacturing, at 84,100, was 200 lower than the October level, but 5,100 higher than November of last year. Increased activity at sawmills and planing mills resulted in higher employment for the lumber and wood products industry. A plant closing in the fabricated structural metal products segment was most responsible for the drop in fabricated metal products employment. More business for firms manufacturing engines and turbines was among the factors contributing to an upturn in machinery, except electrical, employment. Transportation equipment employment was up this month due to increased production of motor vehicles and equipment and increased payrolls in the ship and boat building and repairing industry.

Estimated employment in nondurable goods for November was up by 700 above last month's level of 98,100. Although the fats and oils industry experienced a seasonal decline in employment for November, a seasonal upturn in sugar refining overshadowed this decrease resulting in a slight increase in food and kindred products employment for the current month. Apparel and other textile products employment was higher as a result of an increase in the production of men's and boy's furnishings. Decreases demand for industrial organic chemicals and plastics materials and synthetics accounted for the drop in chemicals and allied products payrolls. Increased production of refined petroleum was responsible for the higher level of employment in petroleum and coal products. The reopening of a plant in the leather and leather products industry, after a temporary shutdown, was primary in the increase of other nondurable goods employment.

Nonmanufacturing employment for November stood at 1,399,200, an increase of 2,000 from October's level. Increased activity in the production of crude petroleum and natural gas was responsible for the higher employment level in mining this month. A downturn in heavy construction and general building construction largely accounted for the decrease in construction payrolls. Less activity at the state's ports, a decline in the use of air transportation, and payroll cutbacks in the communication industry were among the factors contributing to lower employment in the transportation and public utilities sector. Trade employment moved up due to increased hiring at department stores and specialty shops for the holiday season. Employment gains by insurance agents, brokers, and services and at credit agencies other than banks were instrumental in the increase of finance, insurance and real estate payrolls. Less business at hotels and other lodging places, less activity in health services, and a decline in educational services employment were all significant in the drop of services employment during November. Payroll additions in local education, due to seasonal factors and the settlement of a labor dispute, were largely responsible for the upturn in government employment.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 128,400 production workers in manufacturing increased from $416.34 in October to $436.05 in November, an increase of $19.71 and an increase of $42.09 from November a year ago. Average hourly earnings, at $10.26, was $0.13 last month's level but $0.46 above November of last year. Weekly hours averaged 42.5 during November, an increase of 1.4 hours from the October figure.

Estimated total unemployment in Louisiana, at 191,300 for November, was down by 7,500 from October's level of 198,800. The current month's unemployment rate was 9.7 percent compared to 10.0 percent last month and 10.7 percent in November of last year. The comparable national unemployment rate for November was 6.9 percent compared to 7.0 percent in October and 8.1 percent in November of last year. Louisiana's civilian labor force decreased from 1,992,800 in October to 1,964,700 in November. Total employment in November was down by 20,600 from last month's figure.

The state's unemployment rate should be lower next month. Retail trade employment should go up in December as shopping for the holiday season reaches its peak. Manufacturing employment may go down in December.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

| | Nov. 1984* | Oct. 1984** | Nov. 1983** | Net Change from Oct. 1984 | Net Change from Nov. 1983 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS | 1,582.1 | 1,579.6 | 1,580.1 | + 2.5 | + 2.0 |
| MINING AND QUARRYING | 78.8 | 78.2 | 79.0 | + 0.6 | - 0.2 |
| Oil and Gas Extraction | 75.8 | 75.1 | 75.8 | + 0.7 | 0 |
| Nonmetallic Minerals | 3.0 | 3.1 | 3.2 | - 0.1 | - 0.2 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 108.7 | 110.8 | 116.6 | - 2.1 | - 7.9 |
| MANUFACTURING | 182.9 | 182.4 | 180.8 | + 0.5 | + 2.1 |
| Durable Goods | 84.1 | 84.3 | 79.0 | - 0.2 | + 5.1 |
| Lumber and Wood Products | 13.4 | 13.3 | 13.4 | + 0.1 | 0 |
| Furniture and Fixtures | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0 | 0 |
| Stone, Clay & Glass Products | 7.7 | 7.7 | 7.6 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| Primary Metal Industries | 3.6 | 3.6 | 3.5 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| Fabricated Metal Products | 12.6 | 13.5 | 13.6 | - 0.9 | - 1.0 |
| Machinery, Except Electrical | 10.2 | 10.1 | 9.4 | + 0.1 | + 0.8 |
| Electric & Electronic Equipment | 11.2 | 11.2 | 8.1 | 0 | + 3.1 |
| Transportation Equipment | 21.9 | 21.5 | 20.6 | + 0.4 | + 1.3 |
| Other Durable Goods (1) | 2.7 | 2.6 | 2.0 | + 0.1 | + 0.7 |
| Nondurable Goods | 98.8 | 98.1 | 101.8 | + 0.7 | - 3.0 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 23.3 | 23.2 | 25.5 | + 0.1 | - 2.2 |
| Apparel & Other Textile Products | 9.0 | 8.9 | 8.5 | + 0.1 | + 0.5 |
| Paper & Allied Products | 11.9 | 11.9 | 11.7 | 0 | + 0.2 |
| Printing & Publishing | 9.9 | 9.9 | 9.8 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| Chemicals & Allied Products | 28.4 | 28.5 | 29.6 | - 0.1 | - 1.2 |
| Petroleum and Coal Products | 12.3 | 11.9 | 12.8 | + 0.4 | - 0.5 |
| Petroleum Refining | 11.6 | 11.2 | 12.1 | + 0.4 | - 0.5 |
| Other Nondurable Goods (2) | 4.0 | 3.8 | 3.9 | + 0.2 | + 0.1 |
| TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES | 115.8 | 116.1 | 117.5 | - 0.3 | - 1.7 |
| Railroad Transportation | 7.4 | 7.4 | 7.1 | 0 | + 0.3 |
| Transportation, ex. Railroads | 67.5 | 67.7 | 68.5 | - 0.2 | - 1.0 |
| Communications & Public Utilities | 40.9 | 41.0 | 41.9 | - 0.1 | - 1.0 |
| WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE | 376.3 | 374.3 | 376.6 | + 2.0 | - 0.3 |
| Wholesale Trade | 95.0 | 95.0 | 95.1 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| Retail Trade | 281.3 | 279.3 | 281.5 | + 2.0 | - 0.2 |
| Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc. | 59.0 | 57.1 | 61.4 | + 1.9 | - 2.4 |
| Food Stores | 52.9 | 52.8 | 51.3 | + 0.1 | + 1.6 |
| Auto Dealers & Service Stations | 30.6 | 31.0 | 30.7 | - 0.4 | - 0.1 |
| Eating & Drinking Places | 87.0 | 86.5 | 85.7 | + 0.5 | + 1.3 |
| Other Retail Trade | 51.8 | 51.9 | 52.4 | - 0.1 | - 0.6 |
| FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE | 83.5 | 83.4 | 83.2 | + 0.1 | + 0.3 |
| Banking | 27.9 | 27.9 | 27.7 | 0 | + 0.2 |
| SERVICES | 312.1 | 312.7 | 305.8 | - 0.6 | + 6.3 |
| Hotels & Other Lodging Places | 22.7 | 23.0 | 21.8 | - 0.3 | + 0.9 |
| Other Services | 289.4 | 289.7 | 284.0 | - 0.3 | + 5.4 |
| GOVERNMENT | 324.0 | 321.7 | 320.6 | + 2.3 | + 3.4 |
| Federal | 34.5 | 34.3 | 34.1 | + 0.2 | + 0.4 |
| State and Local | 289.5 | 287.4 | 286.5 | + 2.1 | + 3.0 |
| State | 99.1 | 99.0 | 103.3 | + 0.1 | - 4.2 |
| Local | 190.4 | 188.4 | 183.2 | + 2.0 | + 7.2 |

* Preliminary **Revised
(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries
(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

## AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

| | Average Weekly Earnings | | | Average Weekly Hours | | | Average Hourly Earnings | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Nov. '84* | October '84** | Nov. '83** | Nov. '84* | October '84** | Nov. '83** | Nov. '84* | October '84** | Nov. '83** |
| All MANUFACTURING (1) | $436.05 | $416.34 | $393.96 | 42.5 | 41.1 | 40.2 | $10.26 | $10.13 | $9.80 |
| Durable Goods | 412.59 | 387.73 | 352.52 | 42.8 | 40.9 | 39.3 | 9.64 | 9.48 | 8.97 |
| Lumber & Wood Products | 339.10 | 331.43 | 262.66 | 39.8 | 38.9 | 38.4 | 8.52 | 8.52 | 6.84 |
| Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts. | 395.44 | 346.42 | 346.11 | 48.7 | 39.5 | 41.5 | 8.12 | 8.77 | 8.34 |
| Fabricated Metal Products | 393.98 | 384.80 | 354.21 | 42.5 | 41.6 | 39.4 | 9.27 | 9.25 | 8.99 |
| Machinery, ex. Electrical | 412.26 | 397.03 | 364.60 | 44.6 | 41.4 | 38.5 | 9.91 | 9.59 | 9.47 |
| Electric & Electronic Equip. | 524.12 | 455.70 | 391.38 | 45.3 | 43.4 | 40.1 | 11.57 | 10.50 | 9.76 |
| Transportation Equipment | 441.16 | 414.18 | 395.18 | 41.0 | 38.6 | 39.4 | 10.76 | 10.73 | 10.03 |
| Nondurable Goods | 458.96 | 443.15 | 434.84 | 42.3 | 41.3 | 41.1 | 10.85 | 10.73 | 10.58 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 287.22 | 272.15 | 266.85 | 42.3 | 40.2 | 39.3 | 6.79 | 6.77 | 6.79 |
| Apparel & Other Textile Pdts. | 188.88 | 179.42 | 187.73 | 37.7 | 35.6 | 40.2 | 5.01 | 5.04 | 4.67 |
| Paper & Allied Products | 547.64 | 548.96 | 544.54 | 44.2 | 44.2 | 44.2 | 12.39 | 12.42 | 12.32 |
| Printing & Publishing | 340.74 | 332.73 | 342.00 | 38.2 | 38.6 | 38.0 | 8.92 | 8.62 | 9.00 |
| Chemicals & Allied Pdts. | 670.26 | 629.42 | 614.61 | 44.3 | 42.3 | 42.8 | 15.13 | 14.88 | 14.36 |
| Petroleum & Coal Products | 651.28 | 634.16 | 638.01 | 44.7 | 44.1 | 46.3 | 14.57 | 14.38 | 13.78 |
| Petroleum Refining | 650.46 | 707.04 | 652.81 | 44.4 | 48.0 | 46.2 | 14.65 | 14.73 | 14.13 |
| MINING | 558.76 | 552.48 | 529.93 | 49.1 | 48.0 | 47.4 | 11.38 | 11.51 | 11.18 |
| COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES | 476.80 | 476.39 | 466.83 | 39.8 | 39.6 | 39.9 | 11.98 | 12.03 | 11.70 |
| BANKING | 239.40 | 242.03 | 220.13 | 37.7 | 37.7 | 37.5 | 6.35 | 6.42 | 5.87 |

(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 128,400 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 135,400 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

| | PRELIMINARY NOVEMBER 1984 | | | | REVISED OCTOBER 1984 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Labor Force | Empl. | Unemp. | Rate | Labor Force | Empl. | Unemp. | Rate |
| Crowley (Acadia) | 24,525 | 21,875 | 2,650 | 10.8 | 25,525 | 22,650 | 2,875 | 11.3 |
| Oakdale (Allen) | 6,600 | 5,400 | 1,200 | 18.2 | 6,750 | 5,550 | 1,200 | 17.7 |
| Napoleonville (Assumption) | 11,200 | 9,850 | 1,350 | 12.1 | 11,650 | 10,200 | 1,450 | 12.4 |
| DeRidder (Beauregard) | 12,775 | 11,300 | 1,475 | 11.6 | 12,925 | 11,350 | 1,575 | 12.2 |
| Arcadia (Bienville) | 7,650 | 6,950 | 700 | 9.0 | 7,725 | 7,050 | 675 | 8.7 |
| Columbia (Caldwell) | 5,250 | 4,750 | 500 | 9.[illegible] | 5,450 | 4,875 | 575 | 10.5 |
| Cameron (Cameron) | 4,850 | 4,475 | 375 | 7.7 | 5,125 | 4,725 | 400 | 7.7 |
| Jonesville (Catahoula) | 6,475 | 5,750 | 725 | 11.0 | 6,700 | 6,025 | 675 | 10.0 |
| Homer (Claiborne) | 7,675 | 7,075 | 600 | 7.7 | 7,850 | 7,200 | 650 | 8.2 |
| Ferriday (Concordia) | 10,425 | 9,100 | 1,325 | 12.7 | 10,375 | 9,100 | 1,275 | 12.3 |
| Mansfield (DeSoto) | 12,100 | 10,975 | 1,125 | 9.3 | 12,375 | 11,125 | 1,250 | 10.1 |
| Lake Providence (E.Carroll) | 5,200 | 4,500 | 700 | 13.5 | 5,675 | 4,950 | 725 | 12.8 |
| Clinton (East Feliciana) | 8,550 | 7,750 | 800 | 9.4 | 8,775 | 7,900 | 875 | 9.9 |
| Ville Platte (Evangeline) | 14,750 | 12,875 | 1,875 | 12.7 | 15,400 | 13,400 | 2,000 | 13.0 |
| Winnsboro (Franklin) | 8,950 | 7,750 | 1,200 | 13.4 | 9,350 | 8,200 | 1,150 | 12.4 |
| New Iberia (Iberia) | 36,125 | 32,175 | 3,950 | 10.9 | 36,625 | 32,625 | 4,000 | 10.9 |
| Plaquemine (Iberville) | 16,025 | 14,150 | 1,875 | 11.7 | 16,500 | 14,475 | 2,025 | 12.2 |
| Jonesboro (Jackson) | 6,750 | 6,175 | 575 | 8.3 | 6,750 | 6,175 | 575 | 8.6 |
| Jennings (Jefferson Davis) | 13,225 | 11,600 | 1,625 | 12.3 | 13,950 | 12,100 | 1,850 | 13.3 |
| Thibodaux (Lafourche) | 39,925 | 36,125 | 3,800 | 9.5 | 40,350 | 36,650 | 3,700 | 9.2 |
| Jena (LaSalle) | 6,825 | 6,225 | 600 | 8.6 | 6,725 | 6,125 | 600 | 8.9 |
| Ruston (Lincoln) | 22,800 | 21,525 | 1,275 | 5.6 | 22,875 | 21,900 | 975 | 4.3 |
| Tallulah (Madison) | 5,375 | 4,750 | 625 | 11.5 | 5,750 | 5,125 | 625 | 10.8 |
| Bastrop (Morehouse) | 13,075 | 11,625 | 1,450 | 11.1 | 13,625 | 12,150 | 1,475 | 10.8 |
| Natchitoches (Natchitoches) | 18,300 | 16,725 | 1,575 | 8.6 | 18,650 | 17,000 | 1,650 | 8.8 |
| Point-a-la-Hache(Plaqum.) | 14,800 | 13,700 | 1,100 | 7.5 | 15,100 | 13,925 | 1,175 | 7.7 |
| New Roads (Pointe Coupee) | 14,075 | 12,725 | 1,350 | 9.5 | 14,650 | 13,200 | 1,450 | 9.9 |
| Coushatta (Red River) | 4,450 | 4,100 | 350 | 7.9 | 4,600 | 4,225 | 375 | 7.9 |
| Rayville (Richland) | 9,100 | 8,125 | 975 | 10.7 | 9,325 | 8,325 | 1,000 | 10.6 |
| Many (Sabine) | 8,675 | 7,950 | 725 | 8.2 | 8,725 | 7,975 | 750 | 8.5 |
| Norco (St. Charles) | 22,550 | 20,175 | 2,375 | 10.5 | 22,875 | 20,375 | 2,500 | 10.9 |
| Greensburg (St. Helena) | 4,775 | 4,350 | 425 | 8.9 | 4,900 | 4,475 | 425 | 8.[illegible] |
| Lutcher (St. James) | 12,700 | 11,025 | 1,675 | 13.3 | 12,975 | 11,225 | 1,750 | 13.5 |
| Reserve (St. John) | 19,450 | 17,050 | 2,400 | 12.4 | 19,700 | 17,125 | 2,575 | 13.0 |
| Opelousas (St. Landry) | 35,700 | 30,125 | 5,575 | 15.6 | 36,900 | 31,050 | 5,850 | 15.9 |
| St. Martinville (St. Martin) | 20,500 | 17,750 | 2,750 | 13.5 | 20,675 | 18,075 | 2,600 | 12.6 |
| Morgan City (St. Mary) | 33,050 | 29,300 | 3,750 | 11.4 | 33,750 | 29,775 | 3,975 | 11.8 |
| Hammond (Tangipahoa) | 36,775 | 31,300 | 5,475 | 14.9 | 37,700 | 32,125 | 5,575 | 14.8 |
| St. Joseph (Tensas) | 3,275 | 3,000 | 275 | 8.5 | 3,575 | 3,300 | 275 | 7.5 |
| Houma (Terrebonne) | 46,650 | 42,025 | 4,625 | 9.9 | 47,825 | 43,450 | 4,375 | 9.2 |
| Farmerville (Union) | 8,200 | 7,375 | 825 | 10.1 | 8,250 | 7,475 | 775 | 9.5 |
| Abbeville (Vermilion) | 25,100 | 22,575 | 2,525 | 10.1 | 26,425 | 23,700 | 2,725 | 10.3 |
| Leesville (Vernon) | 13,125 | 11,700 | 1,425 | 10.8 | 13,300 | 11,775 | 1,525 | 11.4 |
| Bogalusa (Washington) | 15,400 | 13,275 | 2,125 | 13.8 | 15,700 | 13,500 | 2,200 | 14.0 |
| Oak Grove (West Carroll) | 4,475 | 3,725 | 750 | 16.7 | 4,775 | 4,000 | 775 | 16.2 |
| St. Francisville (W.Felic.) | 3,925 | 3,625 | 300 | 7.4 | 4,075 | 3,800 | 275 | 6.7 |
| Winnfield (Winn) | 6,050 | 5,475 | 575 | 9.4 | 6,050 | 5,500 | 550 | 9.0 |

Note: Labor Market Areas are designated by name of principal Town, but include all of parish in parenthesis.

Above data rounded to nearest 25 except LMA's and Statewide which are rounded to nearest 100. Subtotals may not add to totals due to rounding. Rates computed from unrounded data.

ALEXANDRIA AREA (1)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

| | November 1984* | October 1984** | November 1983** | Net Change From October 1984 | Net Change From November 1983 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS | 55.4 | 55.1 | 55.1 | + 0.3 | + 0.3 |
| MANUFACTURING | 5.8 | 5.8 | 5.8 | 0 | 0 |
| Durable Goods | 2.9 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 0 | 0 |
| Lumber & Wood Products | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Durable Goods | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 0 | 0 |
| Nondurable Goods | 2.9 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 0 | 0 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Nondurable Goods | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 0 | 0 |
| NONMANUFACTURING | 49.6 | 49.3 | 49.3 | + 0.3 | + 0.3 |
| Construction | 3.3 | 3.4 | 3.6 | - 0.1 | - 0.3 |
| Trans., Comm., & Pub. Utilities | 2.5 | 2.6 | 2.5 | - 0.1 | 0 |
| Wholesale & Retail Trade | 12.9 | 12.6 | 12.6 | + 0.3 | + 0.3 |
| Wholesale Trade | 2.8 | 2.8 | 2.7 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| Retail Trade | 10.1 | 9.8 | 9.9 | + 0.3 | + 0.2 |
| Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc. | 2.2 | 2.0 | 2.1 | + 0.2 | + 0.1 |
| Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta. | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| Eating & Drinking Places | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Retail Trade | 4.3 | 4.2 | 4.3 | + 0.1 | 0 |
| Finance, Ins., & Real Estate | 2.9 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 0 | 0 |
| Services & Mining | 12.0 | 11.9 | 11.8 | + 0.1 | + 0.2 |
| Health Services | 5.1 | 5.1 | 5.2 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| Other Services & Mining | 6.9 | 6.8 | 6.6 | + 0.1 | + 0.3 |
| Government | 16.0 | 15.9 | 15.9 | + 0.1 | + 0.1 |
| Federal | 2.8 | 2.8 | 2.8 | 0 | 0 |
| State | 5.8 | 5.7 | 5.9 | + 0.1 | - 0.1 |
| Local | 7.4 | 7.4 | 7.2 | 0 | + 0.2 |

(1) Geographic coverage of data now published for this area differs from the standard definition. Data also includes Avoyelles Parish.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The Alexandria area had an estimated nonagricultural employment of 55,400 during November. This employment estimate is 300 more than the previous month and 300 more than November of last year.

Total employment in the manufacturing industries, estimated at 5,800, remained unchanged since last month and the same as November of last year.

Total employment in the nonmanufacturing sectors increased by 300 since October. Since last month retail trade, services, and government had estimated increases, with decreases in construction and transportation, communication, and utilities. Nonmanufacturing industries compared to November of last year reveals gains in wholesale and retail trade, services and mining, and government, with an estimated loss in construction.

Employment is expected to decline during the next thirty days. The number of unemployed should increase as adverse weather conditions will hamper outdoor related employment.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

| | November 1984* | October 1984** | November 1983** | Net Change From October 1984 | Net Change From November 1983 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS | 214.4 | 213.7 | 210.1 | + 0.7 | + 4.3 |
| MANUFACTURING | 22.2 | 22.0 | 22.4 | + 0.2 | - 0.2 |
| Durable Goods | 4.4 | 4.4 | 3.9 | 0 | + 0.5 |
| Lumber and Wood Products | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0 | 0 |
| Stone, Clay & Glass Products | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 0 | + 0.2 |
| Fabricated Metal Products | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| Other Durable Goods | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 0 | + 0.2 |
| Nondurable Goods | 17.8 | 17.6 | 18.5 | + 0.2 | - 0.7 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 2.2 | 2.2 | 2.4 | 0 | - 0.2 |
| Printing & Publishing | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 0 | 0 |
| Chemicals and Petroleum Products | 12.8 | 12.8 | 13.5 | 0 | - 0.7 |
| Other Nondurable Goods | 1.3 | 1.1 | 1.1 | + 0.2 | + 0.2 |
| NONMANUFACTURING | 192.2 | 191.7 | 187.7 | + 0.5 | + 4.5 |
| Mining | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.9 | + 0.1 | + 0.1 |
| Construction | 21.3 | 21.2 | 20.6 | + 0.1 | + 0.7 |
| Transportation and Public Utilities | 9.6 | 9.7 | 10.2 | - 0.1 | - 0.6 |
| Wholesale & Retail Trade | 52.6 | 52.7 | 50.6 | - 0.1 | + 2.0 |
| Wholesale Trade | 11.3 | 11.3 | 11.3 | 0 | 0 |
| Retail Trade | 41.3 | 41.4 | 39.3 | - 0.1 | + 2.0 |
| Finance, Ins. & Real Estate | 12.8 | 12.8 | 12.2 | 0 | + 0.6 |
| Services | 40.2 | 40.1 | 38.6 | + 0.1 | + 1.6 |
| Government | 54.7 | 54.3 | 54.6 | + 0.4 | + 0.1 |

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

| | Average Weekly Earnings | | | Average Weekly Hours | | | Average Hourly Earnings | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Nov. '84* | October '84** | Nov. '83** | Nov. '84* | October '84** | Nov. '83** | Nov. '84* | October '84** | Nov. '83** |
| All MANUFACTURING (1) | $483.61 | $488.82 | $470.64 | 40.1 | 40.6 | 42.4 | $12.06 | $12.04 | $11.10 |
| Petro-Chemicals | 681.62 | 677.21 | 623.66 | 45.9 | 44.7 | 43.4 | 14.85 | 15.15 | 14.37 |

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,600 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA at 214,400 during November was up 700 over the revised October total and up 4,300 over the total for last November. Increases were in manufacturing and nonmanufacturing.

Employment in manufacturing at 22,200 in November was up 200 from the revised October total. Durable goods had no change and nondurable was up due to more business in miscellaneous plastics products.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing at 192,200 during November was up 500 from the revised October total. Mining had a seasonal increase and construction was up due to more business in electrical work, in masonery, stonework, tile setting, plastering, and in concrete work. Transportation and public utilities were down due to less business in trucking, local and long distance, in water supply, and in sanitary services. Retail trade was down due to seasonal adjustments in grocery stores, shoe stores, and in eating and drinking places. Services was up due to more business in miscellaneous repair shops and related services. Government increased due to seasonal increases in public elementary and secondary schools, and hospitals, in executive and legislative offices combined, and in general government not elsewhere classified.

Average weekly earnings of Baton Rouge LMA's production workers in all manufacturing industries was $483.61 in November, a drop of $5.21 from the October revised average. Average weekly hours were down 0.5 hours and average hourly earnings were up two cents. Less overtime worked at premium pay contributed to these changes.

Total employment of Baton Rouge LMA's residents was estimated at 231,000 during November, a drop of 400 from last month's revised estimate, and up 10,600 over November of last year. Unemployment was down 1,100, reducing the unemployment rate from the revised 9.0 percent to 8.7 percent in November. The statewide unemployment rate was 9.7 percent in November. The local civilian labor force totaled 252,900 during the current period.

Employment in the Baton Rouge area is expected to continue at its high level during the coming months.

The Baton Rouge and Gonzales Job Service Offices served 1,763 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 585 applicants in jobs during November.

The consumer price index for October, 1984 for all urban consumers was 315.3 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 312.2 using base period 1967=100.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

| | November 1984* | October 1984** | November 1983** | Net Change From October 1984 | Net Change From November 1983 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS | 90.5 | 90.3 | 87.2 | + 0.2 | + 3.3 |
| MANUFACTURING | 3.9 | 3.9 | 3.7 | 0 | + 0.2 |
| Durable Goods | 2.3 | 2.2 | 2.0 | + 0.1 | + 0.3 |
| Nondurable Goods | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.7 | - 0.1 | - 0.1 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| NONMANUFACTURING | 86.6 | 86.4 | 83.5 | + 0.2 | + 3.1 |
| Mining | 17.1 | 17.1 | 15.6 | 0 | + 1.5 |
| Construction | 5.3 | 5.0 | 5.2 | + 0.3 | + 0.1 |
| Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities | 6.8 | 6.8 | 6.6 | 0 | + 0.2 |
| Wholesale & Retail Trade | 24.9 | 24.8 | 23.7 | + 0.1 | + 1.2 |
| Wholesale Trade | 6.8 | 6.8 | 6.7 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| Retail Trade | 18.1 | 18.0 | 17.0 | + 0.1 | + 1.1 |
| Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc. | 2.7 | 2.7 | 3.2 | 0 | - 0.5 |
| Food Stores | 3.0 | 2.8 | 2.4 | + 0.2 | + 0.6 |
| Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta. | 1.5 | 1.6 | 1.5 | - 0.1 | 0 |
| Other Retail Trade | 10.9 | 10.9 | 9.9 | 0 | + 1.0 |
| Finance, Ins. & Real Estate | 3.8 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 0 | 0 |
| Services | 18.4 | 18.6 | 18.0 | - 0.2 | + 0.4 |
| Government | 10.3 | 10.3 | 10.6 | 0 | - 0.3 |

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Lafayette stood at 90,500, an increase of 200 over October's level and 3,300 over a comparable period a year ago.

Manufacturing remained at the same level while nonmanufacturing was responsible for the 200 increase. This increase was due to the holiday season.

Mining stood at 17,100 which was the same as the previous month but an increase 1,500 over the same period of time a year ago.

Construction at 5,300 gained 300 over the previous month and 100 over November of 1983.

The other segments of the economy remained relatively stable.

The unemployment rate in Lafayette will remain about the same for the next month but will probably increase after the first of the year due to adverse weather conditions and the end of the holiday season.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

| | November 1984* | October 1984** | November 1983** | Net Change From October 1984 | Net Change From November 1983 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS | 57.5 | 57.7 | 61.3 | - 0.2 | - 3.8 |
| MANUFACTURING | 9.2 | 9.1 | 9.6 | + 0.1 | - 0.4 |
| Durable Goods | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0 | 0 |
| Lumber & Wood Products | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0 | 0 |
| Stone, Clay & Glass Prod. | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Durable Goods | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0 | 0 |
| Nondurable Goods | 8.4 | 8.3 | 8.8 | + 0.1 | - 0.4 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0 | 0 |
| Chemical & Petro Products | 7.6 | 7.5 | 7.9 | + 0.1 | - 0.3 |
| Other Nondurable Goods | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| NONMANUFACTURING | 48.3 | 48.6 | 51.7 | - 0.3 | - 3.4 |
| Mining | 1.9 | 2.1 | 2.4 | - 0.2 | - 0.5 |
| Construction | 4.3 | 4.3 | 5.9 | 0 | - 1.6 |
| Trans., Comm. & Pub. & Utilities | 4.7 | 4.6 | 4.5 | + 0.1 | + 0.2 |
| Wholesale & Retail Trade | 13.6 | 13.6 | 14.7 | 0 | - 1.1 |
| Wholesale Trade | 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 0 | 0 |
| Retail Trade | 10.3 | 10.3 | 11.4 | 0 | - 1.1 |
| Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc. | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 0 | - 0.5 |
| Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta. | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 0 | 0 |
| Eating & Drinking Places | 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.3 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| Finance, Ins. & Real Estate | 3.0 | 3.0 | 2.9 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| Services | 10.4 | 10.4 | 10.9 | 0 | - 0.5 |
| Hotels & Other Lodg. Places | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0 | 0 |
| Personal Services | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0 | 0 |
| Government | 10.4 | 10.6 | 10.4 | - 0.2 | 0 |

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Non-farm payroll employment fell 200 below the October level in November. Most of the loss was in nonmanufacturing industries.

Manufacturing employment increased 100 above the mid-October level. The increase was in the chemical and petroleum products. The current manufacturing level falls to 400 below the November 1983 level. The loss was largely in chemical and petroleum products.

Nonfactory employment currently estimated at 48,300 fell 300 below the October level due to losses in construction. The current estimate shows a decline of 3,400 from November of 1983.

The outlook is for a small increase in trade employment during the December pre-Christmas shopping period. Unemployment should increase after the first of the year due to adverse weather conditions and Citgo's announcement to lay off 700 workers.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

| | November 1984* | October 1984** | November 1983** | Net Change From October 1984 | Net Change From November 1983 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS | 51.1 | 51.0 | 50.5 | + 0.1 | + 0.6 |
| MANUFACTURING | 6.9 | 7.0 | 7.0 | - 0.1 | - 0.1 |
| Durable Goods | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.2 | - 0.1 | - 0.2 |
| Lumber & Wood Products | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Durable Goods | 1.8 | 1.9 | 2.0 | - 0.1 | - 0.2 |
| Nondurable Goods | 4.9 | 4.9 | 4.8 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| Chemical & Allied Products | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Nondurable Goods | 3.1 | 3.1 | 3.1 | 0 | 0 |
| NONMANUFACTURING | 44.2 | 44.0 | 43.5 | + 0.2 | + 0.7 |
| Mining | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| Construction | 2.7 | 2.6 | 2.9 | + 0.1 | - 0.2 |
| Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities | 2.7 | 2.8 | 2.8 | - 0.1 | - 0.1 |
| Wholesale & Retail Trade | 14.7 | 14.6 | 14.5 | + 0.1 | + 0.2 |
| Wholesale Trade | 4.0 | 4.1 | 4.0 | - 0.1 | 0 |
| Retail Trade | 10.7 | 10.5 | 10.5 | + 0.2 | + 0.2 |
| Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc. | 3.2 | 3.0 | 2.9 | + 0.2 | + 0.3 |
| Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta. | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 0 | 0 |
| Eating & Drinking Places | 3.0 | 3.0 | 2.9 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| Finance, Ins. & Real Estate | 4.1 | 4.1 | 4.1 | 0 | 0 |
| Services | 10.4 | 10.5 | 10.0 | - 0.1 | + 0.4 |
| Hotels & Other Lodg. Places | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0 | 0 |
| Personal Services | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.5 | - 0.1 | - 0.1 |
| Health Services | 4.3 | 4.3 | 4.2 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| Government | 9.2 | 9.0 | 8.7 | + 0.2 | + 0.5 |

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment, estimated at 51,100, was up 100 from the October estimate of 51,000.

Manufacturing was down by 100, to an estimated 6,900. The slight decline was in durable goods.

Nonmanufacturing, estimated at 44,200, was 200 above the October estimate of 44,000. Construction, estimated at 2,700, was up 100 from October. Transportation and public utilities was 100 below the October estimate. Wholesale and retail trade was up 100, to an estimated 14,700. Wholesale trade was down 100 while retail trade rose by 200 as the holiday season got underway. Services was down 100. Government, estimated at 9,200, was up 200 from October. All other segments were unchanged.

Employment is expected to rise slightly over the next thirty day period as the holiday season reaches a peak, then decline after the new year. Unemployment is expected to remain high.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

| | November 1984* | October 1984** | November 1983** | Net Change From October 1984 | Net Change From November 1983 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS | 506.3 | 506.9 | 508.0 | - 0.6 | - 1.7 |
| MANUFACTURING | 39.8 | 39.9 | 40.1 | - 0.1 | - 0.3 |
| Durable Goods | 23.3 | 23.7 | 23.3 | - 0.4 | 0 |
| Lumber and Wood Products | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| Stone, Clay & Glass Products | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.6 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| Fabricated Metal Products | 2.9 | 3.4 | 3.3 | - 0.5 | - 0.4 |
| Machinery, Except Electrical | 3.0 | 3.0 | 2.9 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| Transportation Equipment | 13.4 | 13.2 | 12.8 | + 0.2 | + 0.6 |
| Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing | 8.4 | 8.1 | 8.1 | + 0.3 | + 0.3 |
| Other Durable Goods | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.3 | - 0.1 | - 0.3 |
| Nondurable Goods | 16.5 | 16.2 | 16.8 | + 0.3 | - 0.3 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 6.7 | 6.5 | 7.2 | + 0.2 | - 0.5 |
| Apparel & Other Textile Products | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| Paper & Allied Products | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 0 | 0 |
| Printing & Publishing | 3.4 | 3.3 | 3.2 | + 0.1 | + 0.2 |
| Chemicals and Allied Products | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| Petroleum & Coal Products | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Nondurable Goods | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0 | 0 |
| NONMANUFACTURING | 466.5 | 467.0 | 467.9 | - 0.5 | - 1.4 |
| Mining | 18.8 | 18.7 | 18.4 | + 0.1 | + 0.4 |
| Construction | 25.8 | 26.6 | 32.2 | - 0.8 | - 6.4 |
| Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities | 46.7 | 46.5 | 47.2 | + 0.2 | - 0.5 |
| Railroad Transportation | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 0 | 0 |
| Water Transportation | 16.8 | 16.4 | 16.3 | + 0.4 | + 0.5 |
| WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE | 133.6 | 132.4 | 130.8 | + 1.2 | + 2.8 |
| Wholesale Trade | 34.8 | 34.9 | 34.4 | - 0.1 | + 0.4 |
| Retail Trade | 98.8 | 97.5 | 96.4 | + 1.3 | + 2.4 |
| Finance, Ins. & Real Estate | 30.7 | 31.1 | 31.7 | - 0.4 | - 1.0 |
| Services | 125.4 | 126.2 | 122.7 | - 0.8 | + 2.7 |
| Government | 85.5 | 85.5 | 84.9 | 0 | + 0.6 |
| Federal | 14.8 | 14.7 | 14.9 | + 0.1 | - 0.1 |
| State | 19.6 | 19.7 | 21.0 | - 0.1 | - 1.4 |
| Local | 51.1 | 51.1 | 49.0 | 0 | + 2.1 |

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

| | Average Weekly Earnings | | | Average Weekly Hours | | | Average Hourly Earnings | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Nov. '84* | Oct. '84** | Nov. '83** | Nov. '84* | Oct. '84** | Nov. '83** | Nov. '84* | Oct. '84** | Nov. '83** |
| All MANUFACTURING | $373.32 | $367.88 | $358.27 | 40.8 | 39.6 | 38.9 | $9.15 | $9.29 | $9.21 |
| Durable Goods | 381.49 | 364.98 | 380.40 | 42.2 | 39.5 | 40.0 | 9.04 | 9.24 | 9.51 |
| Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts. | 323.73 | 285.12 | 357.20 | 49.5 | 36.0 | 40.0 | 6.54 | 7.92 | 8.93 |
| Fabricated Metal Products | 405.41 | 412.51 | 416.00 | 49.2 | 47.8 | 40.0 | 8.24 | 8.63 | 10.40 |
| Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing | 385.84 | 361.50 | 350.43 | 38.7 | 36.7 | 37.6 | 9.97 | 9.85 | 9.32 |
| Nondurable Goods | 360.68 | 371.59 | 326.00 | 38.7 | 39.7 | 37.3 | 9.32 | 9.36 | 8.74 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 285.37 | 302.40 | 266.44 | 38.1 | 40.0 | 36.7 | 7.49 | 7.56 | 7.26 |
| Apparel & Other Textile Pdts. | 136.90 | 146.73 | 132.14 | 31.4 | 32.9 | 29.3 | 4.36 | 4.46 | 4.51 |
| Paper & Allied Products | 385.40 | 376.66 | 358.99 | 46.1 | 45.6 | 43.2 | 8.36 | 8.26 | 8.31 |
| Printing & Publishing | 353.47 | 374.59 | 328.95 | 38.8 | 41.9 | 38.7 | 9.11 | 8.94 | 8.50 |
| Chemicals & Allied Pdts. | 688.45 | 657.72 | 553.22 | 41.8 | 36.0 | 39.8 | 16.47 | 18.27 | 13.90 |

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 26,900 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the New Orleans Labor Market Area in November moved down to 506,300, a level 600 below October. Manufacturing exhibited a variety of increases along with offsetting decreases. Nonmanufacturing showed an overall reduction despite a seasonal upturn in retail trade.

Manufacturing employment totaled 39,800 in November, 100 less than last month. Fabricated metals suffered the loss of 500 workers due to less business reported throughout the industry. The other durable goods sector also reported a small downturn. More favorable was the continuing increases at area shipyards and seasonal increases in food and kindred products. Compared to one year ago, manufacturing employment is 300 less.

Nonmanufacturing experienced significant decreases in construction and services. Construction was lowered by layoffs reflecting progress on one large project. Services exhibited decreases in most industries, with losses partly offset by a seasonal gain in amusement services. Finance, insurance, and real estate all displayed downturns. Partly offsetting decreases, retail trade was boosted by seasonal factors augmented by the opening of a new shopping mall. Wholesale trade eased down in both durable goods and nondurable goods. Water transportation fluctuated upward. Mining edged up as the oil and gas industry pushed to take advantage of the remaining good weather before winter. Changes in government were minor.

Average weekly earnings totaled $373.32 in November, $5.44 above last month's average. Average weekly hours increased one hour and 12 minutes, which offset the decrease of $0.14 in average hourly earnings. Compared to one year ago, factory workers earned $15.05 more.

Estimated unemployment in November decreased to 50,500, down 2,700 from October. Current joblessness accounts for 9.4 percent of the labor force compared to 9.8 percent in October and 9.6 percent in November of 1983. The unemployment rate of 9.4 percent in November was lower than the state rate of 9.7 percent but considerably higher than the national rate of 6.9 percent. Beneficiaries of regular unemployment insurance totaled 11,802. About 44 percent of the claimants were non-white; approximately 28.0 percent were female.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months is expected to reflect both seasonal and nonseasonal changes. Layoffs following the close of the World's Fair will lower amusement services, although this loss will be partly offset by the opening of the Fair Grounds racing season. Construction will probably reflect further layoffs as large projects near completion. Both construction and mining will be hampered by winter weather conditions. Retail trade will push up strongly in December as shopping for the holiday season nears its peak and then adjust downward in January. Total employment will probably be higher in December than in November, but will likely be lower in January. Unemployment is predicted to move down in December then back up again in January.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

| | November 1984* | October 1984** | November 1983** | Net Change From October 1984 | Net Change From November 1983 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS | 151.6 | 152.0 | 148.7 | - 0.4 | + 2.9 |
| MANUFACTURING | 26.1 | 25.7 | 23.8 | + 0.4 | + 2.3 |
| Durable Goods | 20.7 | 20.2 | 18.0 | + 0.5 | + 2.7 |
| Lumber and Wood Products | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.6 | - 0.1 | - 0.3 |
| Metals and Machinery | 13.4 | 13.3 | 10.8 | + 0.1 | + 2.6 |
| Primary and Fabricated Metals | 4.0 | 4.0 | 3.9 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| Machinery, Inc. Electrical | 9.4 | 9.3 | 6.9 | + 0.1 | + 2.5 |
| Other Durable Goods | 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.6 | + 0.5 | + 0.4 |
| Nondurable Good | 5.4 | 5.5 | 5.8 | - 0.1 | - 0.4 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 0 | - 0.2 |
| Printing & Publishing | 1.5 | 1.6 | 1.5 | - 0.1 | 0 |
| Petroleum & Coal Products | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| Other Nondurable Goods | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 0 | - 0.1 |
| NONMANUFACTURING | 125.5 | 126.3 | 124.9 | - 0.8 | + 0.6 |
| Mining | 6.1 | 6.0 | 6.1 | + 0.1 | 0 |
| Construction | 9.7 | 9.6 | 9.5 | + 0.1 | + 0.2 |
| Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities | 9.1 | 9.3 | 9.4 | - 0.2 | - 0.3 |
| Wholesale and Retail Trade | 33.6 | 33.8 | 33.9 | - 0.2 | - 0.3 |
| Wholesale Trade | 9.1 | 9.1 | 9.0 | 0 | + 0.1 |
| Retail Trade | 24.5 | 24.7 | 24.9 | - 0.2 | - 0.4 |
| Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate | 8.0 | 8.1 | 8.2 | - 0.1 | - 0.2 |
| Services | 32.5 | 33.0 | 31.3 | - 0.5 | + 1.2 |
| Government | 26.5 | 26.5 | 26.5 | 0 | 0 |

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

| | Average Weekly Earnings | | | Average Weekly Hours | | | Average Hourly Earnings | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Nov. '84* | October '84** | Nov. '83** | Nov. '84* | October '84** | Nov. '83** | Nov. '84* | October '84** | Nov. '83** |
| [illegible] | $427.61 | $407.41 | $383.60 | 41.8 | 40.7 | 40.0 | $10.23 | $10.01 | $9.59 |
| Lumber and Wood Products | 198.11 | 213.36 | 218.67 | 37.1 | 40.2 | 37.0 | 5.34 | 5.32 | 5.91 |
| Metals and Machinery | 446.69 | 433.67 | 375.25 | 43.2 | 43.3 | 40.7 | 10.34 | 10.02 | 9.22 |
| [illegible] Kindred Products | 239.09 | 234.19 | 191.91 | 34.6 | 35.7 | 32.2 | 6.91 | 6.56 | 5.96 |
| [illegible] and Pub lishing | 207.30 | 255.74 | 230.04 | 30.0 | 33.3 | 28.9 | 6.91 | 7.68 | 7.96 |
| [illegible]um and Coal Products | 546.39 | 532.46 | 521.86 | 46.9 | 45.2 | 45.3 | 11.65 | 11.78 | 11.52 |

[illegible] in the average earnings table are for approximately 20,200 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and [illegible]ent overtime, lat[illegible] shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the Shreveport labor area was estimated at 151,600 for November, showing a slight decrease from the revised October estimate of 152,000. Manufacturing employment increased from 25,700 to 26,100, while nonmanufacturing employment dropped from 126,300 in October to 125,500 in November.

The employment increase of 400 in total manufacturing occurred in durable goods and resulted from one firm returning to normal production after a partial shutdown during the previous month. The current manufacturing estimate of 26,100 is 2,300 more than one year ago.

Employment estimates in nonmanufacturing reflects a decline of 800 from the previous month. The most significant decrease occurred in services and was due to a seasonal downturn in amusement and recreation services. More business activity caused only a slight employment gain in mining and construction and this increase was more than offset by an employment decline in transportation and public utilities, trade, finance, insurance and real estate and services.

This labor area has 20,200 production workers in manufacturing with average weekly earnings of $427.61. Average weekly hours increased to 41.8, up from the revised weekly average of 40.7 for the previous month. The average hourly earning increased from $10.01 in October to $10.23 in November, up from $9.59 in November, 1983.

The current civilian labor force for this area is 172,400, including an estimated 159,200 employed and 13,200 unemployed. The unemployment rate is 7.6 percent for this area, compared with 9.7 percent for the state and a national unemployment rate of 6.9 percent.

The outlook is that a seasonal decrease will cause total unemployment for this area to move up slightly. Nonagricultural wage and salary employment is expected to remain near the present level as the seasonal increase in retail trade helps to offset the downturn in other segments.